



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
June 12, 2006 06-22a

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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### **Dedication Ceremony Planned for the Murie Ranch in Grand Teton National Park**

Grand Teton National Park and The Murie Center will co-host a dedication ceremony on June 17, 2006, at 11 a.m. to commemorate the designation of the Murie Ranch as a National Historic Landmark (NHL). Lynn Scarlett, deputy secretary of the Department of the Interior, will be the keynote speaker.

The Department of the Interior designated the Murie Ranch as a National Historic Landmark on February 17, 2006. NHL designation is the highest such recognition accorded by our nation to historic properties. These special places are the actual sites where significant historical events occurred, or where prominent Americans worked or lived, and represent the forces and ideals that shaped this nation. Fewer than 2,500 historic places carry this title.

“Last year, I was privileged to visit the Murie Ranch to see, firsthand, its educational resources and beautiful setting,” said Deputy Secretary Scarlett. “The Ranch ties together history, nature, and education to nurture a conservation ethic in present and future generations.”

The Murie Ranch received NHL designation because of its association with Olaus Murie, his wife Margaret (Mardy), and his brother Adolph Murie. The Murie brothers made significant contributions to wildlife management through their rigorous biological research, gaining prominence as influential wildlife biologists over the course of their careers. In addition, Olaus, Adolph and Mardy became champions of conservation in America. They used their ranch as a base for both scientific study, and conservation activities and campaigns. Their activism shaped the American conservation movement.

Today the Murie Ranch serves as a home to The Murie Center (TMC) whose mission is “inspiring people to act mindfully on behalf of wild nature. We carry forward the values inherent in the Murie teachings: respect for nature; the importance of wilderness; and the need to live with care.” TMC conducts symposiums, retreats and educational outreach with writers, philosophers, musicians and artists. TMC works on behalf of wilderness preservation by bringing people and conservation ideals together to promote vibrant and sustainable communities. TMC operates under a special agreement with Grand Teton National Park.

Guests wishing to attend the dedication ceremony should park at the lot in front of the Moose Visitor Center and walk the quarter-mile lane to the ranch. Those people who are unable to walk should call 739-3431 and sign up to catch a ride on a shuttle van.

Light refreshments will be served on the porch of Mardy’s home after the ceremony. Although tours of the Murie Ranch will **not** be offered on Saturday after the dedication, anyone interested in taking such a tour is invited to attend one of the regularly scheduled tours offered throughout the summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3 p.m. For more information about the Murie Ranch, or to reserve a tour spot, please call The Murie Center at 739-2246.

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